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Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A ramp comprising:
5 at least one ramp surface for releasable engagement with a tab characterized by a tab hardness;
a body molded from a compound formulation consisting essentially of:
a polymer; and
a liquid that is chemically incompatible with the polymer, the
10 liquid being in the form of droplets that are distributed in the polymer.
2. The ramp of claim 1 wherein the polymer is characterized by a polymer surface tension and wherein the liquid is further characterized by a liquid surface tension that is lower than the polymer surface tension.
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3. The ramp of claim 1 wherein the liquid is further characterized by a viscosity that facilitates travel of the droplets in the polymer.
4. The ramp of claim 1 wherein the ramp surface further comprises
20 irregularities formed by the droplets traveling to the ramp surface.
5. The ramp of claim 1 wherein the compound formulation further includes particles embedded in the polymer away from the ramp surface.
- 25 6. The ramp of claim 5 wherein the particles are present in the compound formulation in a percentage required to provide the compound formulation with a hardness approximately the same as the tab hardness.

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7. A disc drive comprising:
at least one disc;
at least one read/write head configured to read from or wrote to the at
least one disc;
- 5 at least one suspension supporting the at least one read/write head;
at least one tab extending from the at least one suspension, the at least
one tab being characterized by a tab hardness; and
a ramp adjacent the at least one disc, comprising:
at least one ramp surface for releasable engagement with the at
10 least one tab;
a body molded from a compound formulation consisting
essentially of:
a polymer; and
a liquid that is chemically incompatible with the polymer,
- 15 the liquid being in the form of droplets that are distributed in the
polymer.
8. The disc drive of claim 7 wherein the polymer is characterized by a
polymer surface tension and wherein the liquid is further characterized by a
20 liquid surface tension that is lower than the polymer surface tension.
9. The disc drive of claim 7 wherein the liquid is further characterized by
a viscosity that facilitates travel of the droplets in the polymer.
- 25 10. The disc drive of claim 7 wherein the ramp surface further comprises
irregularities formed by the droplets traveling to the ramp surface.
11. The disc drive of claim 7 wherein the compound formulation further

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includes particles embedded in the polymer away from the ramp surface.

12. The disc drive of claim 11 wherein the particles are present in the compound formulation in a percentage required to provide the compound
5 formulation with a hardness approximately the same as the tab hardness.

13. A disc drive comprising:
at least one disc;
at least one read/write head; and
10 means for loading/unloading the at least one read/write head to the at least one disc.

14. The disc drive of claim 13 further comprising:
a lubricant; and
15 means for feeding the lubricant to the means for loading/unloading.

15. The disc drive of claim 14 wherein the means for feeding the lubricant further includes means for maintaining a relatively constant thickness of lubricant on the means for loading/unloading.

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16. The disc drive of claim 15 wherein the maintaining means comprises:
a body of polymer in which the lubricant is distributed, the polymer being chemically incompatible with the lubricant;
a polymer-air interface defining the body;
25 a layer of lubricant at the polymer-air interface, the layer being replenished by lubricant migrating from within the body to the polymer-air interface so that the layer is kept at a substantially constant thickness.